

On 04/04/71 received a call that a possible suicide had
taken place at 0111 T.V. On arrival I met with S. TRAIL
Sergeant who gave a report to move the victim to
Gene Reaney vehicle. I assisted them in moving victim with
Kimmick. 2007

NARRATIVE: Reconstruct crime. Identify physical evidence, show exactly where items were disposed of. Include statements of victim, witnesses and suspects. Indicate sobriety of victim, witnesses and suspects. Record exact location of witnesses and distance from scene. Give complete description of suspect, including reasons why suspected. Indicate light and weather conditions. Include all information learned during the investigation; nothing is so unimportant that it should not be included.

CASE # 74-15120

OUT inducing further damage to the head. I then stopped everyone from entering the building and crime scene until Detective Palmer arrived and took charge. I then talked with witness who informed us as to what happened. I observed the victim lying on right side of body, with feet facing north and head south, there was blood on right side of head and face, which indicated a wound to the head. For further details see Detective Palmer. I proceeded to hospital where Dr. Wallace reported she was in very serious condition.

In reference to my arrival as I entered the building S. Trail Fire Dept Rescue stated they had to move all the tables, chairs and other articles on the crime scene in order to remove the victim. Also the 38 pistol had been removed and thrown on a table. I then had Deputy Berry take charge of the weapons. After victim was removed we protected what was left of the crime scene.

(USE OFFENSE SUPPLEMENT FORM
IF ADDITIONAL SPACE NEEDED)

330 73-25

m Kennedy 367
SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATING OFFICER

NARRATIVE: Reconstruct crime. Identify physical evidence, show exactly where found and how disposed of. Include statements of victim, witnesses and suspects. Indicate sobriety of victim, witnesses and suspects. Record exact location of witnesses and distance from scene. Give complete description of suspect, including reasons why suspected. Indicate light and weather conditions. Include all information learned during the investigation; nothing is so unimportant that it should not be included.

CASE # 74-15120 7-15-74

On 7-15-74 at 10¹⁰ hrs Det. Kennedy and I in Zone III Car were given a call to go to t.v. Station WXLt Code 1 for a shooting and possible suicide. Upon our arrival we found the victim lying on a t.v. Broadcast Stage being given First aid by at least 3 persons who had a stretcher and various other First aid Equipment.

AFTER Determining that I could not assist the victim I then attempted to preserve the Crime Scene From Further damage and I interviewed the Following;

Ms Linda Taylor W/F 24 aka "Shay"

942 La Costa Circle apt 6 phone 366-7488.

Sarasota. Fla

Ms Jean Reed W/F - 54

4055 MacEachern Blvd phone 922-6756

They Stated both of them Were in the Studio and that the Victim, a Miss Christine Chubbuck F/W 29 of 7132 Point of Rock Circle, Was doing a News telecast and then announced that She Was going to present "an attempted suicide" at which time the Victim drew a gun and shot her self in the head on the Right Side.

This Was confirmed by Mr. Denver Baker W/M 39 of 2025 Coosway, phone 924-3569 who Was the Engineer and who States he observed the events on his "Monitor" t.v. set.

Mr. Baker Further advised that at the Specific Request of Ms. Chubbuck the Show had been Video-taped

(USE OFFENSE SUPPLEMENT FORM
IF ADDITIONAL SPACE NEEDED)

SSO 73-25

Paul Faulkner 389
SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATING OFFICER

RECONSTRUCT CRIME. Identify physical evidence, show exactly where found and how disposed of. Include statements of victim, witnesses and suspects. Indicate sobriety of victim; witnesses and suspects. Record exact location of witnesses and distance from scene. Give complete description of suspect, including reasons why suspected. Indicate light and weather conditions. Include all information learned during the investigation; nothing is so unimportant that it should not be included.

CASE # 74-15120

7-15-74

At the Request of Sgt Palmer the Video tape was re-played and during this time all non-law enforcement personnel were cleared from the room and surrounding corridors at the request of the Station Manager.

As the Video tape was concluded I observed a w/m 21 years identified as John Van Cloud TLE dob 4-4-53 of 623 Newington drive Davis Sarasota Fla taking photos thru the window of the Engineer room.

I asked him to stop and while I was asking Sgt Hein what to do about the matter the Subject walked rapidly away. Upon Sgt Hein requesting that I locate him and bring him back I did so. He had gone to the 2nd floor front office area of the Studio. He attempted to give his camera to a Second Unit Man. I requested he not do so.

Upon my accompanying him back to the Hall next to the Engineering Room Sgt Palmer requested that he turn over his film to Sgt Palmer. The Subject wound it up in the camera and opened the camera and allowed Corporal Pike to remove the film. The film was then given to Sgt Palmer and the Subject Van Cloud was asked to leave as the Station Management did not want photos or any more by standers.

(USE OFFENSE SUPPLEMENT FORM
IF ADDITIONAL SPACE NEEDED)

SSO 73-25

Paul Fambach 389
SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATING OFFICER

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CASE # 74-15120

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

7-15-74

WHEN I ARRIVED THE SCENE THE AMBULANCE ATTENDANTS AND DEPUTY KENNEDY WERE ATTEMPTING TO REMOVE THE VICTIM FROM THE SCENE.

ONE OF THE EMPLOYEES OF CHANNEL 40 AND MYSELF MOVED THE DESK OFF THE STAGE SO THE AMBULANCE ATTENDANTS COULD GET THE STRETCHER TO THE VICTIM. AT THIS TIME I SAW A BLUE STEEL REVOLVER LAYING ON THE CORNER OF THE DESK. AS DEPUTY KENNEDY WAS BUSY WITH THE AMBULANCE ATTENDANTS I, DEPUTY BERRY, PICKED UP THE REVOLVER, A. SMITH AND WESSON 38 CAL. AIRWEIGHT WITH 2" BARREL SERIAL # N7192.

I OPENED THE CYLINDER AND SAW ONE SPENT SHELL UNDER THE HAMMER. I REMOVED ALL THE SHELLS FROM THE REVOLVER. I HELD THE REVOLVER AND SHELLS UNTIL DEPUTY KENNEDY WAS CLEAR OF THE VICTIM AT WHICH TIME I TURNED THE REVOLVER AND SHELLS OVER TO HIM.

(USE OFFENSE SUPPLEMENT FORM
IF ADDITIONAL SPACE NEEDED)

SSO 73-25

James R. Berry
SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATING OFFICER

NARRATIVE: Reconstruct crime. Identify physical evidence, show exactly where found and how disposed of. Include statements of victim, witnesses and suspects. Indicate sobriety of victim, witnesses and suspects. Record exact location of witnesses and distance from scene. Give complete description of suspect, including reasons why suspected. Indicate light and weather conditions. Include all information learned during the investigation; nothing is so unimportant that it should not be included.

CASE # 44-15120

Attempted Suicide

7-15-74 (1)

Writer was advised of a shooting at WXLT TV on Lawton St. at approx 0939 hrs. this date. Writer proceeded to that location and was advised by Deputy Kennedy of an attempted suicide on TV live camera. Miss Christine Chubbuck w/f, 29 yrs. old had shot herself with a 38. cal. revolver on camera during the Suncoast Digest Program. Prior to the shooting Miss Chubbuck had requested the director & engineers to video-tape the program. A note containing some parts of what she had said on TV was found on her desk in front of the camera. The victim had already been removed from the scene upon this writer's arrival. Several articles such as, the weapon used & the desk she sat behind while on camera, were moved from the original positions by attendants from the S. Trail Fire Dept.

This writer viewed the video-tape that had been made of the program. The victim stated facts concerning several law enforcement agencies and recent crime occurrences. She then stated to the effect, that Channel 40 News now presents live & in color an attempted suicide & at this point raises the weapon to her head & fires it, she then slumps over

LAB OFFENSE SUPPLEMENT FORM
ADDITIONAL SPACE NEEDED

SSC 73-25

Sgt. Hinc 208

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATING OFFICER

NARRATIVE: Reconstruct crime. Identify physical evidence, show exactly where found and how disposed of. Include statements of victim, witnesses and suspects. Indicate sobriety of victim, witnesses and suspects. Record exact location of witnesses and distance from scene. Give complete description of suspect, including reasons why suspected. Indicate light and weather conditions. Include all information learned during the investigation, nothing is so unimportant that it should not be included.

CASE #74-15120

(2)

Her desk & ~~she~~ started to fall to the floor the tape ends here. Bob Peterson was present during the viewing of the tape but he remained outside of the viewing area. Peterson admitted a Herald Tribune newsmen to the building & at the time of viewing the tape the newsmen was noticed by Deputy Fairbanks to be standing outside of the viewing room taking pictures through the door window. He then left the area & went to an upstairs office. This writer advised Deputy Fairbanks to bring that subject back to speak with this writer & Sgt. Palmer (#206). The subject stated he only wanted a picture of the law officers in the viewing room, however, this writer felt he could have seen enough to interfere with this Dept's investigation of this case. Sgt. Palmer then proceeded to ask the subject for the film. He gave Sgt. Palmer the film hesitantly. Sgt. Palmer has this film. The video tape was turned over to Deputy Loren to be placed into evidence along with the weapon & shells. The owner of WRET requested to Sgt. Palmer that he preferred no one (news media) be permitted into

(USE OFFENSE SUPPLEMENT FORM
IF ADDITIONAL SPACE NEEDED)

SSC 73-25

Sgt. Neine 208

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATIVE OFFICER

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CASE # 74-15120

(3)

the building and that he and the station personnel would make up a news release for the press.

Miss Chubbuck remains in serious condition at the time of this writing. Deputy Pike was advised by the hospital that the victim had shot herself just behind the right ear and the bullet exited at the top right portion of her head.

IF CHARGE NOTED, PRINT
IN LEFT MARGIN

SI 70-27

Sgt. Pike 208

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATING OFFICER

NARRATIVE: Reconstruct crime. Identify physical evidence, show exactly where found and how disposed of. Include statements of victim, witnesses and suspects. Indicate sobriety of victim, witnesses and suspects. Record exact location of witnesses and distance from scene. Give complete description of suspect, including reasons why suspected. Indicate light and weather conditions. Include all information learned during the investigation; nothing is so unimportant that it should not be included.

CASE # 74-15120

P.T.# 3190

07-17-74

Requested to proceed to the scene of an attempted suicide. The scene was at the WXLt studios on 5725 Lawton Drive. Upon Arrival at the scene, Deputy Lovern and Writer were requested to take photographs of the scene and collect all evidence involving the case. Writer photographed the scene, while Dep. Lovern collected all essential evidence. A list of items taken is attached to the report, and the property was transported back to the Sheriff's Office and turned over to the Property Control Officer for storage.

(USE OFFENSE SUPPLEMENT FORM
IF ADDITIONAL SPACE NEEDED)

SSO 73-25

Bruce Whitehead

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATING OFFICER

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT **Sarasota County Sheriff's Department**

INVESTIGATION AT: Sarasota County, Fla.	DATE THIS REPORT: 7-16-74	PERIOD COVERED BY INVESTIGATION: 7-15-74 thru 7-16-74
TITLE: MISS CHRIS CHUBBUCK 7132 Point of Rocks Circle Sarasota, Florida Occurred at WXLTV-TV, Clark Road, Sarasota, Fla.		CLASSIFICATION: Crime Against Person FILE: #74-15120
SYNOPSIS:		
At approximately 1005 hours on 7-15-74, Writer was asked to proceed to WXLTV-TV located on Clark Road in Sarasota in reference to a suicide attempt. Upon arrival, I observed in the Studio several uniform personnel talking with employees of the Station. In viewing the area where the shooting occurred, Writer observed a large blood stain on the carpet directly behind the chair in which the victim . . . Miss Chris Chubbuck . . . was seated. In addition, there was a small amount of blood on the desk. Under the desk area was a basket type purse with a gun case, unzipped, lying on top. All the furniture - which was moved by the South Trail Ambulance Unit - was moved back into place by Writer. The ID Section was called by Writer to photograph the scene as it was at the time of the shooting. Writer and other uniform personnel then viewed a tapeimaddof the live TV broadcast showing the victim . . . Chris Chubbuck . . .		
COPIES TO: Capt. Ellis Denham	REPORT MADE BY: SGT. EDDIE PALMER DEPUTY SHERIFF SARASOTA COUNTY SARASOTA, FLORIDA	REPORT APPROVED BY: JIM HARCASLE SHERIFF OF SARASOTA COUNTY SARASOTA, FLORIDA
FILE NO:		

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT **Sarasota County Sheriff's Department**

INVESTIGATION AT: <i>Sarasota County, Fla.</i>	DATE THIS REPORT: <i>7-16-74</i>	PERIOD COVERED BY INVESTIGATION: <i>7-15-74 thru 7-16-74</i>
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SYNOPSIS:		FILE: <i>#74-15120</i>
-2- <i>shooting herself in the right side of the head with a 38 cal. Smith & Wesson snub nose. The weapon was loaded with wad cutters (six), and one spent shell casing was found.</i> <i>Detectives Tuttle and Walter made taped interviews with all WXLTV employees that were present in the Studio at the time of the shooting (see statements).</i> <i>All evidence in the Case was taken by Deputies Lovern and Whitehead and placed into property.</i> <i>An autopsy will be performed by Dr. White on 7-16-74 at the Sarasota Memorial Hospital. This Case will be cleared exceptionally upon results of autopsy.</i>		
COPIES TO: <i>Capt. Ellis Denham</i>	REPORT MADE BY: <i>SGT. EDDIE PALMER</i>	REPORT APPROVED BY:
FILE NO:	DEPUTY SHERIFF SARASOTA COUNTY SARASOTA, FLORIDA	JIM HARDCASTLE SHERIFF OF SARASOTA COUNTY SARASOTA, FLORIDA

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT **Sarasota County Sheriff's Department**

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SYNOPSIS:		
7-15-74 . . . Monday at 1000 hours Sgt. Palmer and Writer arrived at the scene of a suicide attempt occurring at WXLTV-TV Studio where Christine Chubbuck - white female, 29 years of age, of 7132 Point of Rocks Circle in Sarasota - was the victim. Upon arrival, Writer observed five deputies at the scene and various personnel from WXLTV in the area. The deputies present were Kennedy, Fairbanks, and Berry . . . as well as Corporal Pike, Sgt. Heine, and Lt. Stimson. Writer searched victim's purse for any suicide note or any other items of interest but nothing was found. In the interim, Detective Tuttle obtained various statements from the employees of WXLTV. Writer spoke with a Linda "Shay" Taylor - white female, 28 years of age, of 942 LaCasta Circle - who advised she was not only a		
COPIES TO: Capt. Ellis Denham	REPORT MADE BY: Det. Angelina Walter DEPUTY SHERIFF SARASOTA COUNTY SARASOTA, FLORIDA	REPORT APPROVED BY: <i>Sgt EO Palmer</i> JIM HARDCASTLE SHERIFF OF SARASOTA COUNTY SARASOTA, FLORIDA
FILE NO:		

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SYNOPSIS:		
-2- co-worker of the victim; but also a friend. She stated that Chris had had numerous problems involving a personal matter. Miss Taylor stressed that Chris had been seeing a female psychiatrist in Bradenton for some time . . . and felt that seeing and talking to the doctor had helped her somewhat. Miss Taylor advised that Chris had been quite upset over numerous sexual problems - her main problem being that she was a 29-year-old virgin. She further stated that Chris was a very unstable person; even though she engaged in various social and sport functions. Chris apparently tried to keep herself occupied with many activities to relieve her frustrations. In addition, Writer searched victim's car for any clues as to her reason for committing suicide, but results were negative.		
COPIES TO: Capt. Ellis Denham	REPORT MADE BY: Det. Angelina Walter DEPUTY SHERIFF SARASOTA COUNTY SARASOTA, FLORIDA	REPORT APPROVED BY: <i>1st E.A. Palmer</i> JIM HARDCASTLE SHERIFF OF SARASOTA COUNTY SARASOTA, FLORIDA
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SYNOPSIS:		FILE: <i>#74-15120</i>
<i>This Writer received a call on this date, 7-15-74, from Sgt. Eddie Palmer to assist with the investigation of an attempted suicide occurring at the Studio of WXLTV-TV on Clark Road in Sarasota.</i> <i>Upon arrival at the crime scene, the victim . . . a Miss Chris Chubbuck . . . had been transported to the Sarasota Memorial Hospital.</i> <i>In addition, Writer viewed a videotape of the program that had been conducted by Miss Chubbuck . . . as well as the deputies dispatched to the scene.</i> <i>I also obtained taped statements from employees of WXLTV-TV that were present during the time of the shooting. The individuals involved were Linda Taylor, Denver Baker, Jack Hartley, Jean Reid, Bill VanSteenburgh, Linford Richard, and Ron Smith. Copies of these statements are attached.</i>		
COPIES TO: <i>Capt. Ellis Denham</i>	REPORT MADE BY: <i>Det. Kenneth Tuttle</i>	REPORT APPROVED BY: <i>Sgt. Ed. Palmer</i>
FILE NO:	DEPUTY SHERIFF SARASOTA COUNTY SARASOTA, FLORIDA	JIM HARCADLE SHERIFF OF SARASOTA COUNTY SARASOTA, FLORIDA

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FILE NO:	DEPUTY SHERIFF SARASOTA COUNTY SARASOTA, FLORIDA	JIM HARDCASTLE SHERIFF OF SARASOTA COUNTY SARASOTA, FLORIDA



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

WITNESS STATEMENT

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74

Time: _____

Page 1 of _____ Pages

I, Chris Chubbuck, W/F, 29 reside at 7132 Point of Rocks Circle
Sarasota, Florida do hereby make the following voluntary statement

to WXL TV Viewers and _____
 who have / has identified themselves / himself to me as Deputy Sheriff(s) of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department. I make this statement without having received any reward, nor have I been made an offer of reward for making this statement. No threats, force or promise have been made to induce me to make this statement.

(This is a tape of the taping of the News Program at the WXL TV
set that Miss Chubbuck was conducting. Following her news report
are recorded Miss Chubbuck's last words, announcing her own suicide
to follow which thereafter took place on the TV set.)

..... primarily and substantially through those subscrip..., Statistics.
This weekend, being typical of the recent rash of violence or 1 man
stabbed, another assaulted and a third shot and wounded. Sarasota
Police report the firing of an 18 year old, a man by the name of
_____ in the parking lot of _____ Tavern on 27th St.
_____ had an apparent stab wound in the chest which, ac-
cording to witnesses was inflicted by James Whitworth during the fight.
Police charged Whitworth with Aggravated Assault. Whitworth is in
satisfactory condition in Sarasota Memorial Hospital. The second
attempted Armed Robbery in a week has involved Law Enforcement officers
from both Sarasota and Man..., Manatee Counties. Last week, teenage
gunmen held up the Highway Bar and after a shoot-out and high-speed
auto wheel chase, held _____ hostage and finally were apprehended by

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74

Time: _____

Page 2 of _____ PagesSTATEMENT CONTINUATION:

Sarasota Sheriff's deputies. Early Sunday morning, at the Beef
and Bottle Restaurant at the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport on U.S. 941,
from an attempted Armed Robbery and shooting.
reported newsman Bob Peterson was on the scene shortly after it began
and he filed this report. I'm sorry for those of you who saw late-night
Newsweek last night. We did have a film report and a commentary by
Bob Peterson. Unfortunately, we had technical difficulties and cannot
bring it for you now however. Watch the news watch tonight at 5:30 and
you will have that story for you then. As for this morning, Foster,
Ray Foster who was shot in that incident is in satisfactory condition
in Sarasota Memorial Hospital.

"In keeping with the WXLT practice of presenting the most immediate
and complete reports of local ^{blood and guts} news, TV 40 presents what is
believed to be a television first. In living color, an exclusive
coverage of an attempted suicide. (Gun fired at this point).

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

WITNESS STATEMENT

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1115 hoursPage 1 of 3 Pages

I, Linford C. Richard reside at 930 North Conrad Avenue
Sarasota, Florida do hereby make the following voluntary statement

to Det. Kenneth Tuttle and _____
 who have / has identified themselves / himself to me as Deputy Sheriff(s) of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department. I make this statement without having received any reward, nor have I been made an offer of reward for making this statement. No threats, force or promise have been made to induce me to make this statement.

Q- State your name and address, please.

A- Name is Linford C. Richard, nickname "Lynn"-- 930 North Conrad Street
on Avenue here in Sarasota.

Q- On the morning of July 15th, were you so employed at WXLT TV?

A- Yes, I'm the Productions Operations Manager at the Station.

Q- This date, were you taping a program?

A- I was directing the program, "Sun Coast Digest," which ah, Chris is
the host.

Q- Could you state what happened or what you knew about the incident that
occurred?

A- Ah, the only thing that I know different that occurred was on this
particular morning, that she had initiated a new segment from what
I gather of her program which was "News," and I thought it a little
unusual but what the heck? Go along with it.

Q- Did she seem upset at the time?

A- Not at the time that I talked with her before the show.

Q- Has Chris ever stated that she was going to attempt suicide or ah...

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1115 hoursPage 2 of 3 PagesSTATEMENT CONTINUATION:

Q- any of her friends had attempted suicide in the past or did she seem like the type that would?

A- Not to me.

Q- During the broadcast of the program, did you see anything that seemed to be unusual?

A- Ah, no-- She seemed to me, to be nervous.

Q- More so than usual?

A- Well, I gathered that it was because normally her show is an "ad lib" type of show and I gathered from ah, since she was reading the news and reading the script that, that was what was causing her to be nervous. Ah, she read a "lead-in" to a piece of news film and ah, we had some technical problems in the control room that eliminated this-- made it impossible, let me say, -- to run that piece of news film and so ah, during the course of action, we came back to her ah-- advising her that we were having technical problems and then, she went on with the news. Ah, the thing that she did as far as the shooting or whatever you want to call it, I had no script to-- the rest of the show was script-- ah, I just assumed that she was ad libbing from then on, until the incident happened. But, I thought at that time that it was a joke, a very bad joke.

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1115 hoursPage 3 of 3 PagesSTATEMENT CONTINUATION:Q- At any time did you see any type of firearm?A- NO.Q- In the building?A- No.Q- Have you ever seen Chris with a firearm in the past?A- NO.Q- Do you have anything else you'd like to add to this statement?A- Ah, right at the moment, no.Q- End of statement. 1119 hours.

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

WITNESS STATEMENTCase No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1103 hoursPage 1 of 3 Pages

I, Denver Baker reside at 2025 Cass Way
Sarasota, Florida do hereby make the following voluntary statement

to Det. Kenneth Tuttle and _____
 who have / has identified themselves / himself to me as Deputy Sheriff(s) of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department. I make this statement without having received any reward, nor have I been made an offer of reward for making this statement. No threats, force or promise have been made to induce me to make this statement.

Q- State your name and home address please?

A- Denver Baker, 2025 Cass Way, Sarasota.

Q- Mr. Baker, are you employed at WXL TV?

A- Yes, I am, Creative Director, I suppose would be a title and ah, this particular morning, I was running audio in the ah, control room.

Q- Mr. Baker, were you taping a program, this morning?

A- Well, I didn't know it was being taped at the time, but it was on tape ah... I was just running audio, controlling the audio that goes out over the air, and of course, watching the show on the monitor.

Q- Ah, could you state what happened during the programming?

A- Well, she ah... we had talked about this new segment last week. She was going to start this morning and ah, she just started the news-- read through the news and we had some difficulty on one of the films and after that, she came back and ah, did what you saw on the tape.

Q- Did you have a conversation this morning with Mrs. Chubbuck?

A- No, not too much other than the show itself, you know and ah, what we were going to do and so on, you know and the lighting situation

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed: _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1103 hoursPage 2 of 3 PagesSTATEMENT CONTINUATION:

- A- and so on.
- Q- Did she seem upset with you or with anything around WXL TV?
- A- N- Not too much more than usual ah... she had this new segment that she had to get typed and she said she couldn't help me set it on the show up because ah, she had to do some typing, gather some news, you know; and ah, that was about all there was, this morning.
- Q- Have you heard ah, Miss Chubbuck say that she would attempt suicide or anything in this manner?
- A- Yes, I did about a week and a half ago, two weeks ago. She said, "Wouldn't it be funny if somebody committed suicide on the air?" And ah, she said, "That would really shake everybody up, be a big story," or something like that. And ah, other than that, no. I talked to her this weekend ah-- she looked like she was planning ahead. Did a commercial with her last week which she wanted to use in her resume's, so it looked like she was planning ahead for that, and other than that.
- Q- Do you have anything else you would like to add to this statement-- that may be helpful?
- A- Well, just other than what Shay said ah, she did have some problems

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

Case No. 74-15120

Date: 7-15-74

Time: 1103 hours

Page 3 of 3 Pages

STATEMENT CONTINUATION:

- A- which we'd talked about at different times, nothing ah, too deep.
- Q- End of statement. 1105 hours.

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

WITNES: STATEMENT

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1120 hoursPage 1 of 3 Pages

I, Robert M. Smith reside at 1063 Patterson Drive
Sarasota, Florida do hereby make the following voluntary statement
 to Det. Kenneth Tuttle and _____

who have / has identified themselves / himself to me as Deputy Sheriff(s) of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department. I make this statement without having received any reward, nor have I been made an offer of reward for making this statement. No threats, force or promise have been made to induce me to make this statement.

Q- State your name and home address please.

A- Robert M. Smith, 1063 Patterson Drive, Sarasota.

Q- Mr. Smith, are you employed at WXLTV?

A- Yes, I am.

Q- On the morning of July the 15th, 1974, were you employed at WXLTV?

A- Yes, I was.

Q- Were you working at the station that morning?

A- No.

Q- Are you personal friends with Chris Chubbuck?

A- Yes, I'd say so.

Q- When was the last time that you saw Chris Chubbuck?

A- Ahmm, Friday when she went home about 6:30 or so-- 7 o'clock, something like that.

Q- Did you often have conversations with Miss Chubbuck?

A- Yes, I did.

Q- Had you ever talked with her about committing suicide or heard her state to you that she was thinking about committing suicide?

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1120 hoursPage 2 of 3 Pages

STATEMENT CONTINUATION:

- A- Yes, ah, she told me the way that she was going to do it, but I
didn't take it seriously.
- Q- About how long ago or what date was this that ah...
- A- Last Monday.
- Q- Did you ever see her with the gun?
- A- No, I didn't.
- Q- But she stated to you that she owned a gun?
- A- Told me that she fired a gun that Saturday, the Saturday before last
Monday.
- Q- Where did she say she bought the gun?
- A- I'm not quite sure-- I think it was the Bullet Hole.
- Q- Ah, how did she state she was going to commit suicide?
- A- Well, first she told me that she had bought this gun and I said,
ahmm, "That can only get you in trouble," sort of joking with her,
but you know, but then, I really believed that and then, she said,
"Well, I did this, because I have this really neat idea that you know, one
day I might _____ you know it'd be nice if I, you know, took
the gun out and blew myself away." And then, she started laughing
after that and I told her that's really insane, crazy idea ah- you know,
like crazy. She used to come up with pretty weird ideas, but I

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1120 hoursPage 3 of 3 PagesSTATEMENT CONTINUATION:

- A- thought this was about the wierdest, you know. I thought it was
also one of her crazy ideas and I tried to change the subject, real
quickly, but I didn't take it seriously.
- Q- In your opinion, did Miss Chubbuck have any personal problems?
- A- Well, I think she felt extremely lonely and you know, she'd get upset
over things, that, I think, wouldn't get other people upset over.
- Q- Do you have any other information you'd like to add to this statement?
- A- Ahhh, no, not just that I'm unbelievably surprised.
- Q- End of statement. 1125 hours.

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

WITNESS STATEMENTCase No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1000 hoursPage 1 of 3 Pages

I, Linda "Shay" Taylor reside at 942 LaCosta Circle, Apt. #6
Sarasota, Florida do hereby make the following voluntary statement

to Det. Kenneth Tuttle and _____
 who have / has identified themselves / himself to me as Deputy Sheriff(s) of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department. I make this statement without having received any reward, nor have I been made an offer of reward for making this statement. No threats, force or promise have been made to induce me to make this statement.

Q- State your name and your present address please?

A- My name is Linda E. Taylor. My friend's call me "Shay" and I live
at 942 LaCosta Circle, Apt. #6, in Sarasota.

Q- Mrs. Taylor, are you employed at WXL TV?

A- Yes, I've been here since September.

Q- On July the 15th, were you so employed at WXL TV?

A- I was.

Q- What is your function at WXL TV?

A- I assist June Reid in traffic and I run cameras and do little things,
a lot of other things.

Q- On the morning of July 15th, were you participating in a show at
WXL TV?

A- Yes I was, running camera.

Q- Ah, could you tell me during the show time, ah, what occurred that
you had information on?

A- Well, my camera was locked-into the two guests who were on the set,
so I stood aside to watch Chris as she was doing the news part of

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1100 hoursPage 2 of 3 PagesSTATEMENT CONTINUATION:

- A- the news show.
- Q- Did Chris seem upset or nervous to you?
- A- She looked to me, very nervous.
- Q- Did you have a conversation before the program began?
- A- No. I got down there about the same time Jean did. I, I believe it was about the same time. She seemed nervous to me, but then, Chris always seems nervous when she reads on camera, but I did notice that she ah, was groping for air, a couple of times.
- Q- Did you at any time, see her gun or hear Chris talking of suicidal attempts?
- A- She's talked to me about suicidal tendencies before but never attempts.
- Q- About how long ago did she talk to you about this?
- A- Ah, about 3 weeks ago.
- Q- Do you have any knowledge as far as if she's financially ah, ah,.... Has she been upset over any personal problems or ah, as far as relation with anyone else?
- A- She's had a problem that we talked about about 3 weeks ago that ah, she hoped to resolve soon, but wasn't resolved. It was kind of a deep personal problem that she's always had. Maybe. I. I don't know her not solving that problem made her feel worse or not. It was a sexual problem.

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1100 hoursPage 3 of 3 PagesSTATEMENT CONTINUATION:

Q- Do you have anything else that you'd like to add to this statement?
to-- as far as what took place on the morning of July the 15th?

A- No, nothing that would help, no-- just rambling.

Q- Thank you. End of statement. 1102 hours.

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

WITNESS STATEMENT

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1050 hoursPage 1 of 3 PagesI, Jean Reid reside at 4077 McEachen BoulevardSarasota, Florida do hereby make the following voluntary statement

to Det. Kenneth Tuttle and _____
 who have / has identified themselves / himself to me as Deputy Sheriff(s) of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department. I make this statement without having received any reward, nor have I been made an offer of reward for making this statement. No threats, force or promise have been made to induce me to make this statement.

Q- (This will be a statement taken from an employee at WXL TV on Lanton Drive, Sarasota, Florida). State your correct name and your correct home address please. #1.

A- My name is Mrs. Frank Reid, Jean Reid, 4077 McEachen Boulevard, here in Sarasota. My title is Traffic Manager here at WXLTV.

Q- Mrs. Reid, on July the 15th, were you so employed at WXL TV?

A- Yes and in conjunction with my regular duties, I also run a camera on the live show that we have here in the morning, Sun Coast Digest from 9:30 to 10. That particular morning, this morning, July 15th, I was down in the studio about 9:25 which is normal procedure. We do that to get set-up for the show.

Q- During the taping of the program, you stated that you were operating the camera, did you observe some unusual actions or something you'd like to discuss with us?

A- Ah, no, not really, ah-- they were inaugurating that day, a five minute news segment which was unusual. We usually have the cameras on her set and the gun with her theme song and went right into

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1050 hoursPage 2 of 3 PagesSTATEMENT CONTINUATION:

- A- interviews. At this time, she was on the news set and I had, we
had to use one camera-- happened I was on that camera with a close-up
of her head and shoulders and the key thing that we have in order to
ah, run news pictures and things of that nature. So that morning, this
morning, she did not smile and say hello, but I didn't think too much
of that actually, because I realized it was a new thing and I knew
Chris did not like reading. She liked to interview. She didn't like
reading news, so I felt she was a little "up-tight" about her new
program.
- Q- Did you have a conversation before she went on the air with Chris?
- A- No, I didn't. I talked to her during the show when she attempted to
have a film run of the hold-up, a special feature thing we have here
and technically, it couldn't be run, so I took my head set off and
whispered to her, "We're having technical problems," and that was a
very normal kind of thing, and her reaction was, "OH!" and then
when we went back on, she handled it very nicely and in a way, that
I would think somebody ah, who was anticipating this tragic event,
wouldn't be able to have thought that quickly and she covered it up,
very very well saying, "Well, we're sorry about this and wait and
you'll see it on the 5:30 News." So very frankly, there was no mani-

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____



SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

Case No. 74-15120Date: 7-15-74Time: 1050 hoursPage 3 of 3 PagesSTATEMENT CONTINUATION:

A- festation in my view that this girl honestly thought she was going
to ah, pull this and if she did, it was going to be kind of a
a trick, kind of a shock trick.

Q- Has Miss Chubbuck ah, ever mentioned suicide to you before?

A- No.

Q- Do you know of anyone that she's ever talked to about committing
suicide or anything in the past.

A- No.

Q- Do you have anything else that you'd like to add to this statement?

A- Only the fact that I thought Chris was extremely happy here. I didn't
know her quite well and she had told me many many times that she was
-- had felt she had found herself. She was very much enjoyed her
show ahmm, loved meeting the people, the public and this was exactly
what she wanted to do in life. She had a -- loose her temper every
now and then, but everybody does in this business so nothing, nothing
that ah, would ah, give you any preview of something like this.

Q- Thank you very much. End of statement. 1055 hours.

Signature: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Time completed _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

74-15120
(hr)

Office of the Sarasota County Medical Examiner
Memorial Hospital
1901 Arlington Street • Sarasota, Florida 33579

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION BY MEDICAL EXAMINER

DECEDENT **CHRISTINE** **CHUBBUCK** AGE: **29** SEX: **Female** RACE: **White**
 ADDRESS **7132 Ft. of Rocks Cr., Sarasota, Fla (sing la)** **WILT-TV Channel 40**
 Number and Street City or County MVD OCCUPATION:

TYPE OF DEATH: In prison ☐ Suspicious ☐ Unattended by a physician ☐ Unattended during fatal illness ☐ Stillbirth attended by midwife ☐ Violent or Unnatural ☒

Sudden in apparent health:

Instantaneous without obvious cause ☐After unexplained coma ☐After unexplained rapidly fatal illness ☐

Unattended by a physician:

Found dead without obvious cause ☐Unattended during fatal illness ☐Stillbirth attended by midwife ☐Violent or Unnatural ☒Name: **Christine Chubbuck**If Motor Vehicle Accident
Check One of the FollowingDRIVER ☐PASSENGER ☐PEDESTRIAN ☐

	LAST SEEN ALIVE	INJURY OR ILLNESS	DEATH	MEDICAL EXAMINER NOTIFIED	VIEW OF BODY	Law Enforcement Agency Notified
DATE	7/15/74	7/15/74	7/15/74	7/15/74	7/15/74	7/15/74
TIME	11:10 PM	9:25 AM	11:10 PM			

NOTIFICATION BY: **Sheriff's Department** ADDRESS: **Sarasota, Fla.**

	LOCATION	CITY OR COUNTY	TYPE OF PREMISES (E.G. HOSPITAL, HOTEL, HIGHWAY, ETC.)
--	----------	----------------	--

INJURY OR ONSET OF ILLNESS	WILT-TV Channel 40, Sarasota, Fla.
----------------------------	---

DEATH	Sarasota Memorial Hospital Intensive Care Unit
-------	---

VIEWING OF BODY BY MEDICAL EXAMINER	Sarasota Memorial Hospital Morgue
-------------------------------------	--

DESCRIPTION OF BODY	BLOOD	NOSE	MOUTH	EARS	NON FATAL WOUNDS	RISOR	LIVER
CLOTHED ☐ UNCLOTHED ☐					ABRASION ☐ BURN ☐	JAW ☐ ARM ☐	COLOR
PARTLY CLOTHED ☐ HAIR	PROTH				CONTUSION ☐ STAB ☐	NECK ☐ CHEST ☐	ANTERIOR ☐
BEARD ☐ MUSTACHE ☐	OTHER (Teeth, Eyes, Ears, etc.)				SUNSHOT ☐ INCISED ☐	BACK ☐ ABDOMEN ☐	POSTERIOR ☐
CIRCUMCISED ☐ PUPILS: ☐					LACERATION ☐	FACE ☐ NECK ☐	LATERAL ☐
EYES: COLOR ☐ OPACITIES, ETC.					PRACURED ☐	FACE ☐ NECK ☐	PERMANENT ☐
See autopsy protocol					DISTRIBUTION	Neck ☐ Abdomen ☐ Arms ☐ Legs ☐	MULTIPLE ☐

FATAL WOUNDS:

TYPE (Gunshot, Incised, Stab, Etc.)	SIZE	SHAPE	LOCATION	PLANE, LINE OR DIRECTION
Gunshot	Smith & Wesson 38 caliber			

Probable cause of death: **CEREBRAL EDEMA & INTERCRANIAL HEMORRHAGE DUE TO GUNSHOT WOUND OF HEAD (SELF-INFLICTED)**

Manner of death: ☒ Accident ☐ Suicide ☐ Homicide ☐ Natural ☐ Unknown ☐ Pending

Check one only

DISPOSITION OF CASE:
 1. Not a medical examiner case
 2. Autopsy authorized
 By: **E.L. Chubbuck, M.D.**
 Pathologist

I hereby declare that after receiving notice of the death described herein, I took charge of the body and made inquiries regarding the cause of death in accordance with HB. 2170, Acts of Florida, 1970, and that the information contained herein regarding such death is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

July 15, 1974 **Sarasota**

Date

City or County of Appointment

Signed by: **Christine Chubbuck**

MEDICAL AND OTHER PERSONAL HISTORY:**SYMPTOMS AND DISEASE, PAST AND PRESENT:**

Allergic to Narcotics ☐ Epilepsy ☐ Diabetes ☐ Hypertension ☐ Asthma ☐ Rheumatism ☐ Gout ☐ Syphilis ☐ Tuberculosis ☐ Other ☐	Coryza ☐ Cynosis ☐ Delirium ☐ Dizziness ☐ Dyspnea ☐ Edema ☐ Fever ☐	Habituation: Sedatives ☐ Alcohol ☐ Monoclonal ☐ "Mood Cold" ☐ Hemorrhage from ☐ Body Orifices ☐	"Indigestion" ☐ Jaundice ☐ Nausea ☐ Pain: ☐ Abdomen ☐ Back ☐ Chest ☐	Precordium ☐ Radiating to Arms ☐ Paralysis ☐ Skin Rash ☐ Somnolence ☐ Stiff Neck ☐ Syncope ☐	Vertigo ☐ Visual Disturbances ☐ Vomiting ☐ Weakness ☐ Weight Loss ☐ Weight Excess ☐
--	--	---	---	---	--

OTHER PERSONAL HISTORY: Suicide attempts ☐ Suicide threats ☐ Hobbies, aptitudes or skills with firearms, chemicals; ☐
 Domestic, premarital or marital conflicts ☐ Financial or business reverses ☐ Social or religious conflicts ☐
 Mental difficulties ☐ Criminal record ☐ Unemployment ☐ Fear of disease ☐

FACTS BEFORE DEATH: Efforts to prevent help ☐ Efforts to obtain help ☐ Suicide attempt: Admitted ☐ Denied ☐
 Refusal to talk ☐ Written declaration of intended suicide ☐ Accusations against others ☐

PHYSICIAN AND HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTIONAL CARE:

PHYSICIAN OR INSTITUTION	ADDRESS	DIAGNOSIS	DATE
DR. J. J. J. J. J.	J. J. J. J. J.	J. J. J. J. J.	J. J. J. J. J.
DR. J. J. J. J. J.	J. J. J. J. J.	J. J. J. J. J.	J. J. J. J. J.

CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH:

NAME	ADDRESS
Ms. Linda Taylor, W/F Age 34	942 LaCosta Circle, Sarasota 366-7488
Ms. Joan Reed, W/F Age 34	4055 MacRae Blvd. Sarasota 922-6756

NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING DEATH:

On 7-13-74 at approximately 9:25 A.M. while giving a news report on WFLA-TV Channel 8, the decedent announced to her viewing audience that they were about to witness what was believed to be a television first - an exclusive coverage of an attempted suicide. At this time she pulled out a 38 caliber Smith & Wesson revolver which she had apparently recently purchased and shot herself in the head. She was taken via South Trail Ambulance to Sarasota Memorial Hospital Emergency Room, arriving at 9:37 A.M. and admitted to the Intensive Care Unit under the care of Doctor W. E. Wallace. She expired approximately 14 hours later, pronounced dead at 11:10 P.M. by Dr. Goldstein. Investigation revealed that Miss Chubbuck had been extremely despondent because of personal problems and had talked of suicide on many occasions.

MEDICAL EXAMINER

Name of Deceased: Chubbuck, Christine
 Place of Autopsy: Sarasota Memorial Hospital
 Date of Autopsy: 7-16-74
 Autopsy No.: A-74-203

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The body is that of a thin, well-developed, well-nourished white female. The hair on the right posterior aspect of the head is matted together by blood and brain tissue. When cleared away, a round, 1.8 cm. defect is present in the parietal area 4 cm. above the pinna of the ear. The scalp about the wound is edematous. On the left side of the head in the parieto-occipital area is another wound which represents the exit site of a missile. This is slightly above and posterior in location to the wound on the right. On compressing the scalp, brain tissue exudes from the wound like toothpaste from a tube. The eyes bilaterally show hematoma formation and the nose is swollen from the bridge to the tip. The neck, chest, breasts, abdomen, and upper and lower extremities are normal, except for a 13 cm. transverse suprapubic scar.

BODY CAVITIES: The body is opened by a standard Y-incision and the breast plate removed. The pleural cavities bilaterally are unremarkable. The pericardial sac is normal. The contents of the abdominal cavity are unremarkable.

HEART: The heart weighs 250 grams and is entirely normal in all respects except for mild atheromatous plaqueing of the left anterior descending coronary artery and mitral valve.

D IAGNOSIS: Coronary atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, mild.

LUNGS: The left lung weighs 500 grams, the right lung 650 grams. The pulmonary arteries are free of thromboemboli bilaterally. The bronchi are filled with hemorrhagic mucus. A bullous bleb is present in the right apex. The external appearance of the lungs otherwise is normal. Sectioning shows mild to moderate changes of pulmonary congestion and edema.

DIAGNOSES: 1. Bullous lesion, right apex.
 2. Hemorrhagic mucus, bronchi, bilaterally.
 3. Congestion and edema, mild to moderate.

ESOPHAGUS, STOMACH, DUODENUM & PANCREAS: The stomach is filled with contents of a partially digested meal and admixed with blood. The remainder of the specimen is entirely normal in appearance.

DIAGNOSIS: Normal organ block except for swallowed blood mixed with partially digested meal.

LIVER: This weighs 1700 grams. The attached gall bladder is normal in appearance. The hepatic capsule is tan in color and smooth in appearance. Sectioning shows the liver to be normal with changes of acute congestion.

DIAGNOSIS: Acute congestion.

INTESTINAL TRACT: This is examined and found to be normal.

DIAGNOSIS: Normal bowel.

KIDNEYS: The left kidney weighs 170 grams, the right kidney 150 grams.

- Page 2 -

Chubbuck, Christine A-74-203

The renal capsules strip with ease bilaterally. Sectioning shows the parenchyma to be entirely normal in appearance.

DIAGNOSIS: Normal kidneys.

URINARY BLADDER: DIAGNOSIS: Normal bladder.

FEMALE GENITALIA: The vagina is pink with a wrinkled mucosa. The cervix is pink with no evidence of ulcerations or erosions. The uterus is normal in appearance. The fallopian tubes bilaterally are normal. The left ovary is missing having been surgically removed. The right ovary is present and enlarged measuring 7 x 3 x 2 cm. The endocervical and endometrial canals are normal. The endometrium is flattened and tan in color. Sectioning the ovary shows mild cystic changes but an otherwise normal appearance. This appears to be most representative of compensatory hypertrophy resulting after the removal of the left ovary.

DIAGNOSES: 1. Compensatory hypertrophy, right ovary.
2. Status post-op left oophorectomy.

ADRENAL GLANDS: These are examined and are found to be normal bilaterally.

DIAGNOSIS: Normal adrenal glands.

SPLEEN: This weighs 70 grams and is normal in appearance.

DIAGNOSIS: Normal spleen.

HEAD & BRAIN: The external wounds have been described under General Description. The x-rays taken on admission to the hospital have been studied and reveal fragments of metal within the brain substance and a large metallic fragment representing the bullet adjacent to the exit wound and lodged within the soft tissue of the scalp. As the calvarium is removed, this bullet is found and is seen to consist of a portion of metal measuring 1.5 cm. x 1 cm. x 1 cm. The anterior portion of the bullet is moderately deformed. The entrance wound of the bullet into the bone of the right side of the skull is essentially unchanged from the original description. The exit wound in the left parieto-occipital area is 2 cm. in diameter with bone fragments hanging from the exit of the wound and lodged within the scalp. Examination of the subcutaneous tissue of the scalp reveals massive bilateral hematomas. A 9 cm. skull fracture is present in the calvarium extending from the entrance wound over the surface of the skull to the mid line sutures in the occipito-parietal area. A small dural hematoma is present on the right surface of the brain about the area of the entrance wound. A large epidural clot is present in the area of the exit wound. As the brain is removed, from the skull, 150 cc. of clot material present epidurally and subdurally is found in the occipital region. The base of the skull reveals an elongate fracture extending from the left anterior fossa through the middle fossa over the petrous bone and into the posterior fossa. A second fracture is present in the occiput extending from the right to the left side.

- Page 3 -

C hubbuck, Christine A-74-203

The brain weighs 1350 grams. Marked degeneration of cerebral substance is present in the area of the parieto-occipital lobe on the right representing the entrance wound. Palpation of the wound reveals bone fragments deep within the cerebral substance. The bullet exited the right parieto-occipital region just above the cerebellum and entered the left cerebral hemisphere in a similar location. The exit wound is in the dorsal aspect of the left parieto-occipital hemisphere, slightly posterior to the entrance wound. Examination of the brain stem shows edema of the cerebellar peduncles and brain stem. Edema of the cerebral hemispheres bilaterally is also present. Sectioning the brain only further elucidates the bullet tract. Bone and brain from the area of the entrance wound of the bullet are stained with black pigment consistent with powder burns from a close range wound. Sectioning the cerebellum and brain stem reveals edema of the pons and clotted blood within the fourth ventricle.

DIAGNOSES: 1. Penetrating bullet wound of the brain entering in the right parieto-occipital area just above and behind the right ear and exiting in the left parieto-occipital area in a slightly dorsal and posterior location to the entrance wound.
Associated injuries:

1. Parieto-occipital skull fracture of calvarium.
2. Extensive basilar skull fracture, left anterior middle and posterior cerebral fossae and occipital skull fracture extending from the right to the left posterior fossae above the transverse sinus.
3. Left epidural and subdural hematomas.
4. Cerebral edema.
5. Edema of the cerebellar peduncles and brain stem.
6. Massive subcutaneous hematoma, skin of scalp.
7. Traumatic laceration of cerebral tissue, right and left parieto-occipital areas.
8. Bullet, subcutaneous tissue, left side of head.

MICROSCOPIC AUTOPSY

HEART: No pathologic diagnosis.

CORONARY ARTERIES: Mild early atherosclerotic changes.

LUNGS: Pulmonary edema and congestion.

LIVER: Normal histologic appearance.

PANCREAS: Normal histologic appearance.

STOMACH: Normal appearing gastric mucosa.

KIDNEYS: Normal histologic appearance.

- Page 4 -

Chubbuck, Christine A-74-203

GENITALIA: Proliferative endometrium and normal myometrium and histologically normal appearing ovarian tissue.

BRAIN: Sections submitted from the anterior portion of the cerebral hemispheres and the area of the cerebellar peduncles and medulla are normal except for edema. Sections from the area of bullet tract show distortion of neural tissue with hemorrhage, congestion, and early necrosis of neural tissue. No evidence of an inflammatory reaction is seen.

FINAL ANATOMIC DIAGNOSES:

1. Penetrating bullet wound of the brain entering in the right parieto-occipital area above and behind the right ear and exiting in the left parieto-occipital area in a slightly dorsal and posterior location to the area of entrance wound.

Associated injuries:

1. Edema of the cerebral hemispheres bilaterally, cerebellar peduncles and brain stem.
2. Left epidural and subdural hematomas.
3. Traumatic laceration of cerebral tissue, right and left parieto-occipital areas.
4. Skull fractures:
 - A. Basilar skull fracture extending from the left anterior cerebral fossa through the middle fossa to the posterior cerebral fossa.
 - B. Fracture of the calvarium from point of entrance wound to the posterior aspect of the sagittal suture.
 - C. Fracture of occiput from the right side to the left side above the transverse sinus.
5. .38 caliber distorted bullet, subcutaneous tissue, left side of head.
6. Massive subcutaneous hematoma, skin of scalp.
2. Pulmonary congestion and edema, mild to moderate.
3. Coronary atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, mild.
4. Acute hepatic congestion.
5. Status post-op left oophorectomy with compensatory hypertrophy of the right ovary.


E.L. Kanstock, M.D./lj